

THE COST AND CALL OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

LUKE 9:23

CSDC APOSTOLIC CENTER

DISCIPLESHIP HANDOUT

THE COST AND CALL OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

1. What Is a Disciple?

A disciple is one who:

- Follows Jesus
- Learns from Jesus
- Becomes like Jesus
- Obeys Jesus
- Represents Jesus

Key Scripture: Matthew 4:19

2. The Cost of Discipleship

A. Deny Yourself — Luke 9:23

- Surrender your will
- Submit your desires
- Yield your plans
- Crucify the flesh

B. Take Up Your Cross Daily The cross = obedience unto death of:

- Pride
- Rebellion
- Old identity
- Old habits

C. Count the Cost — Luke 14:28 Discipleship requires:

- Time
- Discipline
- Sacrifice
- Accountability

- Consistency

3. Marks of a True Disciple

A. Abides in the Word — John 8:31–32 B. Loves like Jesus — John 13:35 C. Bears Fruit — John 15:8 D. Follows the Holy Spirit

4. The Call of Discipleship

- Follow Him fully
- Be formed by Him
- Represent Him with authority and character

5. Barriers to Discipleship

- Comfort
- Fear
- Pride
- Distractions
- Double-mindedness
- Lack of discipline

6. Reflection Questions

1. What is God calling you to surrender today?
2. Where have you followed casually instead of completely?
3. What discipline is the Holy Spirit strengthening in you?
4. What fruit is God calling you to bear in this season?

7-DAY DISCIPLESHIP DEVOTIONAL

Theme: The Cost and Call of True Discipleship

DAY 1 — “Follow Me”

Scripture: Matthew 4:19 **Reflection:** Jesus’ call is personal and direct. Discipleship begins with a yes. **Affirmation:** “I respond to the call of Jesus with a willing heart.” **Prayer:** Lord, awaken my desire to follow You fully. **Call to Action:** Write your personal “yes” to Jesus in one sentence.

DAY 2 — Denying Self

Scripture: Luke 9:23 **Reflection:** Self-denial is not loss—it is liberation. **Affirmation:** “My will bows to the will of God.” **Prayer:** Father, strip away every competing desire. **Call to Action:** Identify one area where your will must yield.

DAY 3 — Taking Up the Cross

Scripture: Galatians 2:20 **Reflection:** The cross is where the old you dies and the new you rises. **Affirmation:** “I am crucified with Christ; I live by His life.” **Prayer:** Jesus, teach me daily obedience. **Call to Action:** Surrender one habit or mindset that must die.

DAY 4 — Abiding in the Word

Scripture: John 8:31–32 **Reflection:** Discipleship requires consistency in the Word. **Affirmation:** “The Word shapes my identity and decisions.” **Prayer:** Holy Spirit, give me hunger for Scripture. **Call to Action:** Read one chapter of the Gospels today.

DAY 5 — Loving Like Jesus

Scripture: John 13:35 **Reflection:** Love is the evidence of discipleship. **Affirmation:** “I love with the heart of Christ.” **Prayer:** Lord, purify my motives and increase my compassion. **Call to Action:** Show intentional love to one person today.

DAY 6 — Bearing Fruit

Scripture: John 15:8 **Reflection:** Fruit is the visible proof of spiritual maturity. **Affirmation:** “My life produces fruit that glorifies God.” **Prayer:** Father, prune me so I may bear more fruit. **Call to Action:** Identify one fruit (character or action) to grow in.

DAY 7 — Walking in the Spirit

Scripture: Romans 8:14 **Reflection:** The Spirit leads disciples into maturity and purpose. **Affirmation:** “I am led by the Spirit in all things.” **Prayer:** Holy Spirit, guide my steps and decisions. **Call to Action:** Spend 10 minutes in silence listening for His direction.

DISCIPLESHIP TEST — “The Cost and Call of True Discipleship”

Short-Answer Written Test for Print

SECTION 1 — FOUNDATIONS OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. According to Matthew 4:19, what three components make up Jesus’ call to discipleship?

Answer: _____

2. Define what it means to be a disciple in your own words.

Answer: _____

3. Explain the difference between a believer and a disciple.

Answer:

SECTION 2 — THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

4. What does Jesus mean when He says, “Deny yourself”? (Luke 9:23)

Answer:

5. What does taking up your cross daily represent?

Answer:

6. Why does Jesus tell us to “count the cost” before following Him? (Luke 14:28)

Answer:

SECTION 3 — MARKS OF A TRUE DISCIPLE

7. According to John 8:31–32, what identifies someone as a true disciple? *Answer:*

8. What is the primary evidence of discipleship according to John 13:35? *Answer:*

9. What does it mean to “bear fruit” as described in John 15:8? *Answer:*

SECTION 4 — PERSONAL APPLICATION

10. Identify one area of your life where the Holy Spirit is calling you to deeper surrender.

Answer: _____

11. What is one spiritual discipline you need to strengthen to grow as a disciple?

Answer: _____

12. What fruit do you believe God wants to develop in you during this season?

Answer: _____

SECTION 5 — SCRIPTURE MEMORY

13. Write out Luke 9:23 from memory.

Answer:

14. Write out John 8:31–32 from memory.

Answer:

SECTION 6 — BONUS QUESTION

15. Why is discipleship impossible without the Holy Spirit?

Answer:
